

Message Text

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12
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-14 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /140 W
----- 124175

R 200815Z AUG 74
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2918
INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 3943

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR VS VN MO
SUBJ: DRV/PRG PROSPECTS IN MOROCCO

REF: STATE 171607

1. SUMMARY. GOM RECOGNIZES ONLY RVN TO EXCLUSION
OF DRV/PRG, AND GIVES NO SIGN OF POLICY SHIFT UNDER PRESENT
CIRCUMSTANCES. LACK OF DRV/PRG EMISSARIES AND
UPGRADING TO AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL OF RVN EMBASSY,
EXPECTED IN SEPTEMBER, ARE INDICATIONS OF CONTINUING
POSITIVE TREND IN GOM-RVN RELATIONS. END SUMMARY

2. RVN, WHICH HAS MAINTAINED STAFF OF ABOUT FOUR
DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS IN MOROCCO, REMAINS ONLY DIRECT
PARTY TO VIETNAM DISPUTE RECOGNIZED BY GOM. WE WOULD
NOT EXPECT CHANGE IN MOROCCAN POLICY IN FAVOR OF DRV/PRG
UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES. ALTHOUGH MOROCCO HAS GOOD
RELATIONS WITH ESTABLISHED COMMUNIST REGIMES, INCLUDING PRC
SINCE 1959, AND IS INTERESTED IN MAINTAINING A NON-ALIGNED
IMAGE, GOM IS NEVERTHELESS INTRINSICALLY ILL-DISPOSED TOWARD
"REVOLUTIONARY" MOVEMENTS. SEMI-OFFICIAL MEDIA HAVE TAKEN
STRAIGHTFORWARD AND FACTUAL APPROACH IN THEIR RELATIVELY MEAGRE
REPORTING ON SOUTHEAST ASIA. GOM ALSO CONTINUES TO BAN
INTERNAL COMMUNIST ACTIVITY AND EXISTENCE OF COMMUNIST
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PARTY IN ANY GUISE.

3. GOM HAS TAKEN NEUTRAL LINE ON PRG EFFORTS TO GAIN OFFICIAL STATUS IN INTERNATIONAL BODIES; RABAT WILL PROBABLY GO ALONG WITH MAJORITY DECISIONS IN SUCH FORUMS WITHOUT PROTEST. WE DO NOT SEE SUCH APPROACH AS PRELUDE TO RECOGNITION OF PRG, HOWEVER.

4. DRV/PRG REPRESENTATIVES HAVE NOT MADE ANY APPEARANCES HERE AND WE KNOW OF NO FUTURE PLANS IN THIS VEIN. PRG WELL AWARE OF CLOSENESS OF US-MOROCCAN RELATIONS, AS INDICATED BY MADAME BINH'S DEMARCHE TO FON MIN LARAKI REPORTED RABAT 2869. CONSTRUCTIVE US INFLUENCE HERE IS ONE MORE FACTOR MAKING MOROCCO UNLIKELY PROSPECT FOR PRG'S CAMPAIGN FOR EXPANDED ARAB-AFRICAN SUPPORT.

5. RVN CHARGE TOLD EMBOFF AUG 19 THAT HIS EMBASSY WELL SATISFIED WITH GOM ATTITUDE THUS FAR, AND THAT HE FORESAW NO MOROCCAN POLICY SHIFT AT PRESENT. HE INDICATED RVN WOULD LOOK TO USG FOR DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT SHOULD ANYTHING NEGATIVE DEVELOP. CHARGE ALSO NOTED THAT NEW RVN AMBASSADOR HAD ARRIVED IN RABAT AND HOPED TO PRESENT CREDENTIALS TO KING HASSAN IN SEPTEMBER. (THIS WILL MARK SIGNIFICANT UPGRADING OF RVN REPRESENTATION, WHICH HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN AT CHARGE LEVEL.)

6. AS FOR FUTURE US ACTIONS IN MOROCCO TO DISCOURAGE POLICY SHIFT, IT WILL BE IMPORTANT TO REMAIN IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH RVN AUTHORITIES IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY EARLY ANY INCIPIENT NEGATIVE TREND AND THUS BE IN POSITION TO MOVE QUICKLY AS APPROPRIATE TO DISCOURAGE SUCH A DEVELOPMENT. FACT OF CONTINUING ACTIVE US DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS IN FAVOR OF THE RVN AND OPPOSING DRV/PRG MANEUVERS WILL HAVE IMPORTANT IMPACT OF GOM POLICY, EVEN THOUGH GOM MAY NOT SEE EYE TO EYE WITH US ON EVERY DETAIL.
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